

May 28, 1984

Dear Roger,

I just wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed our meeting on Sunday. It was a real thrill to see coins like the 1804 C-2 and the 1808 C-1 which I had never seen before. I am also going to spend more time with my Hastings lens looking for die clashes and the like.

Things are getting ready to slow down here for the summer. Worth's Coin's last bid wall will come down on June 29. The last boards are mostly "unworn gold" including lots of gold dollars ranging in grade from VF-30 to AU-55. Most of them will sell for big bucks since that stuff is hot. The only coin of interest to me is an 1802 large cent (S-226) in EF-40 which needs a good brushing.

Keep me in mind on your "secondary waiting list" if you decide to sell any of your duplicate rarities <sup>or</sup> high grade common coins. I know the rarities may be too expensive for me, but they still command my interest. After all, when a coin is as rare as a 1913 liberty nickel, was not made at midnight to be marketed to those who have everything and can be easily attributed, even some work with an ice pick can be accepted.

Sincerely,  
Bill Jones

7/20/84

William T. Jones  
Po Box 6207  
Boston Mass 02209

Dear Mr. Jones:

I don't recall ever meeting you but we certainly seem to share an interest.

Your articles in "Penny-wise" have provided me two sources of feelings, one of satisfaction and the other of frustration. I will start with your opening <sup>three</sup> paragraphs from the 5/15/84 issue.

My first thought is "What is an average collector"? You seem to define this as a person who is just entering the field of collecting Half Cents and is unwilling OR unable to afford more expensive specimens. I am very familiar with this concept. An excellent example of this was my treatment of the Proof Coin of 1825-1857 in my First Edition. For the Second Edition I was literally forced to provide more information. If you have John Wright's review of my first edition from PW of 5/15/72 you will see what I am referring to. It was not only John's review but the fact I came in contact with other Half Cent collectors. Nationwide that created the change in me to seek out and view the more expensive but not necessarily better Condition Coins.

Many persons have criticized my first edition for its photographs. On the other hand many persons have stated "We like your first edition because it shows coins in the condition we see them in, we never see these "high falutin'" coins that are depicted in your 2nd edition". You comment on this on the <sup>on the</sup> 1806/17

Where does this leave me as the author of.

(2)

the book? First of all a book is a compromise created for the average collector as I define it.

The book should be simple enough so that a neophyte can read it and understand the main points of collecting by variety. It should not be so complicated that he is repelled with minutiae. An excellent example of this is My Keys to Varieties.

On the other hand the book should not be so simplistic that it repels the advanced collector! An example of this is the Emission Sequence which requires top condition coins to determine. I did not have <sup>many</sup> these coins available to me at the time of the first edition thus My Emission Sequence for 1794 and 1800 have errors in the Numbering Registers. I did not change them for the 2nd edition due to opposition by every Half Cent collector I spoke to. As I have stated "So at best an emission sequence is an <sup>educated</sup> guess."

To me the average collector can not be defined except in a most generalized manner. You have placed the average collector as one who can only purchase inexpensive coins but I feel that the average collector can observe the more expensive coins. While he can not currently own them he can be knowledgeable of them. This is where you fall down in your definition of an average collector. You have restricted him to the business strike of 1800 - 1857 without the proofs. I note that you refer to the 1802's as fascinating coins since they are overstrikes. Two more fascinating dates are 1795 + 1797 which <sup>have</sup> ~~are~~ overstrikes. Why eliminate them for your average collector? Low grade examples showing the undertypes can be

Purchased at rather modest prices:

Recently Frank Wilkinson and I worked up the enclosed Paraty on "The Top Ten" which is currently running in P.W. Frank plans to give it as a Paper at the EAC Meeting at ANA. We also plan to run it in P.W. in September. Both of us found this to be quite amusing. Frank incidentally does not now own a single Half Cent. He is a P.H.D. Candidate on a very limited budget. However the present non-ownership of a collection has not stopped him from observing High grade specimens. He has assisted in the Top Ten articles on numerous occasions.

It is all far now and I would certainly like to meet you in person so we could have a chat.

Sincerely

P.O.S.C.

N.B. In your discussion of 1809 you mention a die break on the #4 and also on the 1810. Would this by any chance be the Hub Flaw I refer to in my book? also is the 1810 a type error when you meant 1811

(R)



Rec 7/30/84

Roger S. Cohen  
4701 Sangamore Road  
Bethesda, Maryland 20816

This guy will  
be bored  
When he sees  
Breen Book.

Dear Mr. Cohen:

I was pleased to receive your recent letter. I have admired both editions of your half cent die variety books, especially for their format which incorporates the plates of the coins with the descriptions which makes attribution easier. I have also enjoyed the special articles included in your second edition on the history of half cent literature and the art of collecting half cents.

I am disappointed at the student tone you used in attacking my articles. I am a collector who assigns himself to attainable goals. I don't collect coins which don't interest me because someone else thinks I should own them. I also rarely collect damaged coins. If I can't afford a decent piece, (even a clean good is OK for certain purposes) I can do without it. It was with this set of rules in mind that I limited my own collection of half cents the business

strikes from 1800 to 1857. This group offers enough of a financial challenge (I have almost \$3,000 in my 1802 and 1811's to prove that) but it also offers the chance to go to a small coin show with a couple hundred dollars and to come home with two or three (maybe four) interesting, slightly circulated pieces to study and enjoy. It's also a collection that with a few exceptions you can hide away at home (not in the safe deposit box) to be brought out on quiet evenings for personal peace and enjoyment.

These were the coins which I have shopped for over the last four years, and they were the half cent ~~that~~ which I felt qualified to write about in P-W. My articles are intended to provide the beginning and intermediate collector with a guide to the coins available in the lower price range. Therefore it was my intention to inform the "average collector" that he should buy an 1806 C-4 in ~~an~~ very fine even if he must pay more than catalogue because the only alternative I have seen has been "either" a good-Very good a MS. 60 or 63. The same advice applies to the 1810 half cent in strict \$EF-40 because this coin

has become almost impossible to find at even double the current catalogue price.

The early half cents from 1793 to 1797 are fascinating coins, but they are painfully expensive. Today a decent copy of a 1795 or 1797 will cost over \$1,000. When every piece is in this price bracket, there is no fun left in collecting for me.

Don't get me wrong, I love the coins produced by the U.S. mint during the 1790's and I have assembled a type set of them over the last 10+ years, but types are one thing, die varieties are quite another at \$1,000+ a piece.

The proof only half cents from 1831 to 1852 are another matter. The originals, if they were ~~struck~~ struck in the year they are dated, are collector's items. The so called "restrikes", which were made during a period low ethical standards at the mint for the personal profit of some mint officials, are to me about as interesting as the junk produced at the Franklin Mint. At any rate, when a coin ~~is~~ is a proof and sells for \$3,000+ it's rather silly to consider adding it

to your \$6,000 set of circulated coins. STARR  
DID

Another criticism you had for my efforts was that I should be actively studying coins which I do not own. I have done this for years. For example, I purchased the Hoe book on Massachusetts silver two years before I owned a Pine Tree shilling and was well prepared to act when the market fell. In fact, I ~~have~~ <sup>have</sup> owned and studied all of the classic die variety books on American coin even though I have only one or two coins in a particular series.

It is hard for me to have a chance to see the very rare coins which you advocate I include in my article. I don't know any collectors who own those pieces and most of the big dealers who stock this stuff (and there are not many of those these days) are about as friendly as Maryland blue crabs when they realize you are not going to buy. In short, why should I repeat what others, like yourself, have already done far better than ~~than~~ I could ever hope to do?



(5)

I Found  
it  
OPINION  
ATED

In conclusion, I hope that my tone in this letter has not been too staid for you. I admire your work very much, and I would be proud to meet you someday. I feel that my articles in PW helped to fill a void for the small collector. I realize that there are a lot of great coins out there in people's collections but the <sup>supply of</sup> coins available on the retail market is very thin. I just wanted to give the ~~corrected~~ larger of circulated half cents the benefit of my experience.

Sincerely,  
Bill Jones

P.S. Here are a few of my findings which you might find interesting.

1. I located an 1809 C-1 at a small Massachusetts coin show about 4 years ago. It was a slightly worn 16-8. I sold the coin to Ron Guth to help finance a beautiful Pine Tree shilling (well centered EF-40 - Noe 16 of course!). The coin was eventually traded to a Michigan collector through Jim Mc. Guegan

Probably I see

2. I have found many examples of the 1828 C-1 in numismatic circulation. Personally I can not rate this coin of equal rarity with the 1825 C-1 and the 1826 C-2. The last piece I saw was in a group of 24 ~~coins~~ half Cents I had to buy in order to ~~pe~~ upgrade my 1804 C-5 to a VF-35+.

3. Ditto for the 1832 C-1. I have found this coin to be no more difficult than the other 1832 varieties.

4. The die failure I was referring to in my article concerned the 1809 C-4, 1810 and possibly the 1811 C-2. Since I am working with the coins I have seen and the three choice VF's in my collection I could be mistaken. There seems to be a pattern of die breaks or "moulding" on coins of this era which results in a flattening of the hair on Ms Liberty's neck. This is very prominent on the late states of the 1809 C-4 and the 1810 coins and my 1811 C-2 is rather weak in this area as well.

~~But~~

5. I have found the 1806 C-4 to be

7

impossible to find in VF and EF condition.  
The only pieces I have seen offered were  
G-UG and MS 60-63's. I am not alone  
in this quest. Two small dealers who  
have business north of Boston have been  
looking for this coin for their clients in  
VF-EF for two years with out success.

9/22/84

Mr William T. Jones.  
Po Box 6207  
Boston Mass 02209

Dear Mr Jones,

It was not my intention to write a strident letter and I hope you will forgive me. I hope you realize that it was only trying to be constructive. Having had the experience of being put down and kicked around in this field of Half Cents I do not wish to assume the role of the "Kicker". If you have gotten the latest book on Half Cents you will see who my "Kicker" was and he's still doing it!!

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of an upcoming Half Cent Whist Match on Sat. October 13<sup>th</sup> to be held in New Jersey between a Connecticut Collector and a New Jersey Collector. I don't know if you have ever attended such a thing but I can assure you that you'll see some Half Cents you will remember. In addition you will meet a number of Half Cent Collectors who are Visitors and Judges. The coin will not be all M9-60+ there will be a number of very low grade ones the best tho that the collectors have. This is as you know one of the realities of the coin.

Please write or call 301-652-6316 if you're interested

Lucas  
Raymond Cohen

September 26, 1984

Roger Cohen  
4701 Sangamore Road  
Bethesda, Maryland 20816

Dear Mr. Cohen,

Thank you for your invitation to the Half Cent Whist Match to be held in New Jersey on October 13. Although I will be staying with friends in New York City over that weekend, I have made arrangements to attend the large coin show which will be held there on that Saturday so I don't think that I will be able to make it to New Jersey at that time. Perhaps we could meet at the EAC Convention next year if I am able to attend.

My wife and I have just returned from the NENA Convention (New England Numismatic Association) which was held in Rockport, Maine at a beautiful resort. The weather was excellent and we enjoyed taking long walks in the autumn air. I entered



an exhibit which covered the history of United States mint locations from New Haven, Connecticut (the Fugio Cent) to West Point, New York and took first place in the U.S. division. I didn't see too much decent early copper for sale, however. It's getting harder and harder to put together even a modest set of decent half cents these days!

I recently purchased a copy of Walter Breen's new half cent book. The book is an excellent addition to any advanced half cent collector's library because it is so complete. I have enjoyed reading it, but I do have two criticisms. First he continues to insist on giving a number to the 1804 C-3 even though this piece is no more than a die state of the C-5. Using this logic I could assign a new Valentine number to the 1800 LIBERTY half dime with the die injury on the reverse by the eagle's head and another number to the few pieces known without the injury.

My main criticism, however, was with the grading area. First of all, there are several very common coins, such as the draped bust half cent in fine, which are easy to locate, which are not pictured. Secondly, Breen makes no attempt to show ~~or~~ explain the difference between a VF 20 and a VF 35 even though several of the VF's in the pole to cap grading areas are at least VF-35's if not better. In general I found his grading to be much too conservative and well out of step even with the most honest people in the coin business. A collector who sold his collection using these standards would be almost giving his coins away. A potential buyer who used the Breen Standards would never buy anything because he would be expecting too much.

In closing, I will continue to use Cohen numbers for my collection, and I hope that dealers will continue to advertise with them. I have found your second edition to be the easiest book to use of all of the classic die variety studies, and I hope that this factor along with its lower cost will preserve a place for it in the market. Sincerely,  
Bill Jones

September 26, 1984

Roger Cohen  
4701 Sangamore Road  
Bethesda, Maryland 20816

W.T. Jones  
P.O. Box 6207  
Boston, Ma. 02209

Dear Mr. Cohen,

next post

Thank you for your invitation to the Half Cent Whist Match to be held in New Jersey on October 13. Although I will be staying with friends in New York City over that weekend, I have made arrangements to attend the large coin show which will be held there on that Saturday so I don't think that I will be able to make it to New Jersey at that time. Perhaps we could meet at the EAC convention next year if I am able to attend.

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Bill Jones



November 26, 1984

Dear Mr. Cohen

I was pleased to note that your half cent condition census in the November 15 P-W has now reached the early 1800's where my collection begins. The following piece which I now own and one, which I sold in order to acquire a Fine Free Shilling, may be of interest to you:

1802 C-2 VF-20, smooth light brown surfaces with a couple of minor edge nicks. This is the Garret specimen which was sold by Bowers and Rodeby in 1979 at \$1,300. I acquired the coin in a trade with EAC'er Bob Elder who had acquired it from the original purchaser.

#10-15 R055

1803 C-3 EF-45 Full sharpness of an AV, but not quite the right gloss and color to call it that grade. It is a light brown with a few darker patches. Breen's die state IV without the bulge at the "18" in the date.

1804 C-1 Second Use. VF-35 and a glossy dark brown. Acquired from the Worthy Coin bid wall in Boston.

1804 C-5 EF-40 with beautiful brown color. Has a slight rim irregularity which does not affect any of the devices - may be mint causal. Acquired at Worthy Coin in a lot of 24 half cents.

1809 C-1 VG-7, very lightly Burnished. This piece was discovered by EAC or Robert Elder and I acquired it from him at a small source. I sold the coin to Ron Guth at the 1982 ANA source. Jim McGuigan told me that he and Ron placed the coin with a Michigan collector.

1811 C-1 VF-30 with an edge nick at 2 o'clock. Acquired from Jim McGuigan<sup>as VF-20</sup>, Ex 1976 ANA auction by Stacks. ~~#12~~. Has the 4 star break.

1811 C-2 VF-35 attractive light brown. Acquired from Jim McGuigan, Ex 1970 "Rauls Sale" by Stacks as an EF.

The Worthy Coin hel wall is almost a Boston institution. The store was founded ~~by~~ in the late 1920's by the late Corrado Romano. Mr. Romano was an old time collector-dealer whose personal holdings included one of the 1792 silver centered cents. His son, Don, now runs the store and will show some of "dad's favorite" coins from time to time. Most recently he displayed a Jefferson head cent in VF.

I hope my notes are of some value to you, and I hope someday to meet you.

Sincerely,  
Bill Jones.

12/10/84

W. T. Jones

P.O. Box 6207

Boston MA 02209

Dear Mr. Jones,

Many thanks for your letter of Nov 26 for  
additd cc items

Just why I omitted the G. Garrett 1802<sup>#2</sup> I  
don't know But I sure did. I also note that it's  
listed in the "GIANT RED BOOK" but the time ends at  
the sale. It is from persons such as yourself that  
pieces of the owners chain are put together. I will  
also add that if I put out any reference to the  
Coin I will list Boston Collector or some other  
name so as to not reveal exactly who owns the  
coin.

The EF-45 1803<sup>#3</sup> falls below #10 which  
I listed as an AU-55 BOT I have ~~put~~<sup>put</sup> it into  
my records as Coins have a tendency to show up  
again - I am using your Numerical ratings as I  
believe that you are experienced enough to grade coins  
I note that you use "Breens die state IV" I  
believe that collectors should describe such a coin as  
1803<sup>#3</sup> (BS IV)

The use of die states by Breen has a number of  
drawbacks such as what about a coin which falls  
between state IV and state V? Shall we call it  
state IV 1/2? and then another between state IV  
and state IV 1/2. Shall this be state IV 1/4? What  
is occurring is that from G. Elbert's States of his No. 8  
will recognizable state a whole system of reports  
every flaw or break will be listed for every  
die combination. Many of Breen's die states require!  
an uncirculated specimen. I can see a never  
ending system when one considers the fact that

if 30,000 Coins were struck from a Pair of dies. Theoretically there could be 30,000 die state

In all probability they won't happen but I see a trend <sup>similar to</sup> in the in grading which gave Silver Dollars we are up to MS64. When are we to hit the forests? I consider Breen's book to be a substantial departure from established Numismatic Standards, but only time will tell if Collectors adopt the BS Concept.

I am familiar with the Worthy Coin Co. I visited their office in late 1948 and had the elder Mr Romano show me a Higley Copper which was in his stock at that time. I was impressed with his willingness to discuss with a New Collector some of the finer Points of Numismatics. Unfortunately I could not afford the Higley but I wish I had been able to now!

I would at some time like to see your 1804 #1, the 1804 #5 as well as your 1811 although I've seen both 1811's - The "Howls" 1811 was the only Plated Coin in that Sale that I did not acquire. It was acquired by R. Tottenham via Mail bid. Needless to say I was the Underbidder on the 1808 #1 (Not identified as such) in that Sale. The story of why is too long and painful to repeat here perhaps when we meet.

This is all for now and many thanks for your letter

Sincerely,

Wagner Cohen



Jan 1, 1985

Dear Mr. Cohen,

There is currently a very interesting half cent for sale on the Worthy Coin bid wall. It is an 1802 C-2 with the word "CENT" from the previous large cent boldly visible on the reverse. I doubt if the undertype could be attributed to Sheldon because this word is all that is clearly visible. The coin as a half cent ~~was~~ graded a V6-8, was cleaned at one time but is now turning nicely, was struck from very rusty dies and is fairly attractive for an 1802.

Do you have any idea how rare this item is? Breen states in his 1802 C-1 description that undertype is rarely seen, and in your "poorly known" list, you mentioned an 1802 C-1 with undertype.

I have had a mild interest in the piece, but, as you know, I already own the Darrett coin and the young dealers here are "hot" for the piece and have already posted bids in excess of \$600.

Please let me know if this amount of undertype is that unusual. If by some chance you would like to own the coin,

I would be happy to bid for you,  
but I am afraid it will take at least  
\$1,200 to \$1,300 to win it. I would only  
expect to be reimbursed for the coin plus  
the postage to send it to you.

I really enjoyed your last letter,  
and I hope that this latest "find" is  
of some interest to you.

Sincerely,

Bill Jones

P.S. The coin is coming down on January 12,  
so it may be necessary to call me if you  
are interested in it.

Office (617) 574-3102<sup>6</sup>  
HOME (617) 342-2514 (after 6 PM)

The reverse of the coin looks a somewhat  
like this:



W. T. Jones  
P.O. Box 6207  
Boston, Ma.

March 8, 1985

Dear Mr. Cohen,

My wife and I plan to attend the EAC Convention in April. We plan to arrive late on the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup> and return on the 15<sup>th</sup>. I hope that you will be there, and that we will have a chance to meet. In one of your letters you mentioned that you would like to see my 1804 C<sup>#</sup>1 and 5 and both of my 1811's, and I will bring them for your inspection.

The 1802 C-2 with the heavy undertype which I wrote to you about was sold to a Brockton, Mass. coin dealer who claims he sent the piece to Del Bland. The dealer says that Bland has been able to attribute the half cent's undertype to a Sheldon number. According to the "Great Red Book", the undertype on the 1802 C1 and 2 has not been attributable so this may be something of an event. If all of this true, I guess we will hear about it at the convention.

I am looking forward to meeting you in a few weeks

Sincerely,  
Bill.

(over)

3/17/85

Dear Bill

Many thanks for writing and I am sorry to say that it will not be in Chicago. I'm a CPA with a rather large public practice and those kind things are ones that require me to be at work for 18 hours with 5 hours sleep. I told you I. he couldn't have picked a worse time for me. I missed the 1984 in Calif because it was at the end of March. My work is such that I can't do much of anything but work from about Feb 15<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>. Just one of the hazards of my job.

I tried to call you back in January in regards to the 1802. You had left your office and I tried you home. 617-342-2514 but the phone company said ~~the~~ "the number was not a working number."

I have a good idea who has the coin now as I know who used of Del Blanches Customer area.

Again Thanks and I will try to see you this spring (later) as my daughter lives in Cambridge Mass and I have a new granddaughter who due to my work I haven't seen yet.

Sincerely  
Roger

4/4/85

Dear Roger,

Thank you for your letter of 3/13/85. As an ex accountant, I should have remarked the significance of April 15<sup>th</sup>. I am looking forward to meeting you later in the spring.

I regret the mix-up concerning my home telephone number. The correct number is (617) 341-2514, and I have enclosed my business card for your convenience.

In the continuous saga of the 1802 C-2 half cent with the heavy undertype, the dealer who purchased it for about \$600 refused an offer of \$1,400 from Del. Bland, and now he has it priced at \$2,000. The greed exhibited by some people in this business is incredible! Although the piece may be worth that much money to some advanced collector, this dealer does not attract that kind of clientele.

On the home front, I recently upgraded my 1803 C-4 to a VF-20. Although the coin is of no importance to the condition census, it looks a lot better than the G000-X which I had in my collection, and at \$95 how could I resist? I hope to find an 1803 C-2 and the 1804 C-4 and C-7 at the EAC convention.

I have written a reply to Tom DeLong's grades, proposals which appeared in the last P-W. I agree with you that the MS-64 grade is a ridiculous,



unworkable proposal. Any additions to the five official MS grades which are now in place cannot be effectively described or policed. I also got pretty rough with ANACS and the ways that dealers use ANACS graded coins to their own advantage. At least the novice collectors who read PW will have a chance to know the score before they blindly buy ANACS material.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you in the spring and once more I am sorry for the error in my telephone number.

Sincerely,  
Bill

BETHESDA MD 20814  
4/26/85

William T. James Jr.  
P.O. Box 6207  
Boston Mass. 02209

Dear Bill,

tentatively set to be in Boston over Memorial Day  
Week end. How about Sunday afternoon for some  
"ad hoc" talk. I'll bring a few of mine along for discussion.  
Perhaps there are some novelties which you would  
particularly enjoy seeing. If so let me know.

This Tax Season was the worst one yet. More  
trouble particularly getting Partnership information, and  
Reconciling differences over Information Returns. We ended  
up with almost 200 automatic Extensions which is more  
Return than I did in 1968 when was the first year  
I kept Records on.

Back in late March while the taxwork is going on  
in the office I obtained the Plate Specimen of NY 1804  
NY from Bill Weber. It about 8th on the Cornelia Census  
and a major up grade for me. The above was pictured  
in my first edition and now belongs to Jules Reiser.

Heard you were at WAC 85 did you acquire  
anythg Worth Valley.

Sincerely  
Roger

W.T. Jones  
P.O. Box 6207  
BOSTON, MA 02204



Thank you for your letter of 4/26/85. I would like to meet on the Sunday you mentioned which is May 26. If you have any of the following pieces for sale, I would be interested in them

- [illegible]

Please let me know if you have any of the  
 coins listed above for sale and some price ranges  
 so that I could have cash available for you  
 if that is what you prefer. I am also interested  
 in a 1793 1/2 Cent or VF 20 to VF-35 - any variety  
 will do since I'm only looking for a type coin.

The EAC convention was somewhat of a bust so far as half cents were concerned. All of the scarce varieties I needed were around but in very poor condition. I finally settled for a

1804 C-4 in a mildly pitted good-4, but that was the best of the lot. I also hit the bullet and purchased an 1806 C-4 in ms-60+. The type coin from 1800 to 1807 are my personal favorite and this is my first true mint state coin from that era.

Let me know if you have a convenient meeting place. My home is outside of Boston, and I think you may have a hard time locating it. I could pick you up or meet you somewhere... Let me know.

Sincerely  
Bill

Roe  
7/12

Dear Roger,

I wanted to drop you a note concerning the 1795 Coker 6 about which I called you last month. The piece was struck on a 1795 cent planchet. It weighed 102 grains and the undertype on the obverse looked like this:



SAID TO BE OVER AN S-78, but I could not confirm this. There were also denticles on the reverse.

As I told you, I had an interest in two half dimes which were also on the board. If I had been able to purchase one half dime and the half cent, I would have sold the half cent to you at my cost plus postage. As it was, I came up dry on everything, as you can see from the chart below:

coin	M.N. BID	MY BID	Pure Realized
1795 1/2 cent EF-45	\$2,200	\$2,725	\$4,000
1792 1/2 dime F-12, WHITTED	1,650	2,401	3,650
1797 1/2 dime EF-45	1,950	2,701	2,810

The half cent was worth \$4,000 + given its eye appeal, condition and rarity. The 1792 1/2 dime had been whiped, but still had a decent appearance

At \$3,650, however, let the dealers have their  
fun. The 1797 1/2 dime ~~was~~ had no claim whatever  
to AV-50 status, and it makes one wonder what  
these dealers are thinking about. I bid \$200 more than  
I normally would have since I have been looking  
for the coin for over a year.

Unfortunately it looks like we are headed  
for another period where "investors" and other poorly  
informed people are going to dominate the coin  
market. The only saving grace is that they  
seem to dislike copper which may leave  
some room for us.

On the brighter side, I did acquire an 1804  
C-12 in AV-50 from the latest Q David Bowers auction.  
The piece is a dark brown with immaculate,  
glossy surfaces, and I feel fortunate to have gotten  
it.

I am sorry that things did not work out  
for us.

Sincerely  
Bill



7/14/85

Mr W.T. Jones Jr.  
P.O. Box 6207  
Boston MA 02209

Dear Bill,

Thanks for your letter with the description of the 1795 from the recent Hancock sale. Interestingly enough I got a letter from a Pete Boisvert telling me about his purchase of the coin and his desire to show me the coin on 7/12 when he would be at a show in Maryland. I didn't get to the show until 330 PM and by that time he had called my office and said he would be gone.

When I got to the show he had shown the 95 to numerous persons who, 1 liked the coin, 2 confirmed that it was struck over a large cent, and 3 were astounded that the coin was available at \$5,500!

Until I got <sup>his</sup> ~~the~~ letter I had never heard of Pete Boisvert. How about yourself? Some how obtaining a coin for sale after acquiring it doesn't strike me as saying much for his dedication as a collector. It sounds more to me like a coin hustler. In his letter Pete also mentioned he had other Half Cents i.e. "1794 #26 F-12 w/cr (ANACS), an 1804 #9 d/s on a spoiled cent planchet very early die state, and other 'better' 1/2 CS". Perhaps you can enlighten me.

As a further item in regard to the 95 I'm enclosing a copy of an ad from the March 1948 Numismatist which might be of some interest. I remember the ad when it came out and did indeed purchase a coin from it.

The 1796 1/2 Cent I also refer to this purchase in my book in the section on "Value" You may have noticed it previously.

(2)

The ad was of great interest to me back in 1948 as  
in January 1949 I had turned 21 and my father  
gave me \$300 which my Grandfather had left me  
I was collecting coins and was quite interested in both  
large and 1/2 cents. I seriously contemplated the purchase  
of the 1799! In the end however I didn't do  
it as it was just too much of a risk. Remember  
"don't put all of your eggs in one basket" I was going to  
College under the G.I. Bill <sup>and</sup> while I had <sup>real</sup> no financial  
problems etc. <sup>but</sup> I passed up another incredible opportunity  
I now know but didn't know then!

I also now know where the good copper in  
the ad came from. <sup>None</sup> ~~There~~ other than Dr. Sheldon. He  
was selling off coins from the Heins Collection and he  
thought that the 1799 was too big a risk. The price  
it was offered at was the price Heins had paid Wm. G.  
Bryant in 1928 so in effect the price was considered  
a sucker price.

What has all this to do with the 1795? Notice  
the coin listed above the 1796 I bought. Does it  
~~seem~~ seem familiar? I think it's a distinct possibility  
that it's the same coin. In those days the undertype  
wouldn't have been mentioned as it might be considered  
damage to the coin. Thus the Very Fine Grade.

Well this is all for now.

Sincerely

Reggie

7/18/85

Dear Roger,

Thank you for your recent letter and the interesting list of prices from the past. Upon checking with Don Romano, I do not believe that the 1795 half cent is the same piece listed in Whiteneck's ad. Although he is not sure, Don believes the coin was bought from B MAX Mehl (at \$68!). It has been in the Romano hoard for over 25 years. Romano says that the coin was attributed to be over an S-78 by the Sheldon via Monroe Goshel.

I know Pete Boisvert quite well. He is basically an honest person, but he often sees more in a coin than others do. He also tends to clean and recolor coins far more than is necessary. I have not seen any of the coins Pete told you about ~~at all~~, except perhaps the 1804 C-9 on the large cent planchet. If it is the same coin which I saw, I thought it was just a regular half cent with a flanged rim, but I'm not an expert in overstrikes. The best policy is to look at Pete's stock very carefully and judge for yourself. I was surprised to hear that Pete had bought the 1795 1/2 cent since he has not had that in the past.

I have been thinking about the 1803 C-2 in V6(?) you offered to me during our first meeting. I am prepared to offer you \$200 plus postage for the piece. I hope you are not offended and, of course, I will not be offended if you refuse. You may either send the coin to me and I will send you a check, subject to a final inspection, by return mail, or you may let me know and I will send a check to you first.

I am also thinking about the 1805 C-2. I know the coin is a dog, but I'm not so sure that I want to sink the really big bucks it takes to buy a decent one into a die variety. There are other expensive things like a decent 1793 half cent I would prefer to own. If you do know of someone who has a nice VF 1793 they would like to sell, I would be very interested.

Once more thank you very much for the interesting letter

Sincerely  
Bill



attended the EAC Meeting. I got to see the 1795 #6b which is now graded as VF-30 and is presently the finest known. The <sup>CENT</sup> reverse is very clear on both sides. If the obverse is on the Hall Cent obverse and the reverse. I did not take the time to attribute which Sheldon variety it was although "Guskenon who" PRONOUNCED it to be a 3-78

<sup>NOT</sup>  
(F-12) → Pete, needless to say, sold it along with his 1794 #26 (V6-7) to Jim McQuigan. The financial details were not announced but since the coin were not offered around it seemed Jim paid a healthy price but in later years it may be looked at as an incredible bargain.

I also acquired an 1840 SR-17 Proof for my small but growing collection of "Other Half Cents". at \$25.00 a crash the collection is small and doesn't have much chance to grow very much each year.

The rest of ANA I don't know too much about it was only there two days but I did see one interesting item a 1796 #2 with the Pale removed passing as a 1796 #1. This coin is that now another part of the Cohen-Breen Fund. "Guskenon who" pronounced it to be the only known 1796 #1 without the horizontal die break!! Would you like to try this one?

Look at Photos of both obverses and write me how to separate them. The photos in my book <sup>and</sup> are the BIG RED BOOK should be enough. The reverses are the same side and the coin is in grade Fr-3. The date and LIBERTY are visible.

The Coin Photo 4re side in the book referred to above are.



(2)

1796 #1 The Same Coin is in both books  
and is listed in the BIG RED BOOK as the 3rd Coin  
in the Conclusion Chapter. Both Prentiss <sup>IN THE BIG RED BOOK</sup> and the same  
Coin. IF the Variety and BS II

"BS" One Not Mean what  
you would commonly think  
it is - it means  
"BROWN SENT"

1796 #2

BIG RED BOOK - P 162 - VARIETY SPECIMEN IS FIRST ONE  
listed in CC and is also BS I

~~of #1~~

- Coin for BS II is unidentified  
to me and now

BIG RED BOOK - P-165 is the same Coin plated  
in my 2ND Edition.

So let me know how to tell a 1796 #1 from  
a 1796 #2 with the Pale removed. This should be  
a Challenge - even though you don't collect  
them and may enjoy it.

I guess this is all I have now. I  
may get to Boston again. My daughter and  
her family are there again. My son in law is back  
at school. They spent the summer here in D.C.  
so I got to see a good bit of them. Will  
let you know.

Sincerely

Bogen

9/17/85

Mr. William T. Jones, Jr.  
P. O. Box 6207  
Boston, MA 02209

Roger Cohen  
4701 Langamae Road  
Bethesda, Maryland 20816

Dear Roger,

Thank you for your recent letter. I always enjoy hearing from you.

I'm somewhat surprised that the 1795 #6b was only graded VF-30. I thought the coin was an easy EF. Perhaps there was some edge damage which I missed or maybe Peter has been fooling with it. He has messed up several nice coins in the past with some so-called improvements.

I'm glad to hear that your daughter is back in the Boston area. Perhaps we could get together and close a deal on the 1803 C-2 among some other things. The only weekend which I now know that I will be busy is November 1-3.

My wife and I will be attending the New England Numismatic Association (NENA) convention in Hartford, Ct.

I have won first place in the U.S. coin division for competitive exhibits for two years running, and I would like to do it a third time. This year's topic will be "Foul-UPS, Bleeps and Blunders" which will cover embarrassments to the U.S. mint such as the SBA dollar, odd looking eagles on the early coins, half undressed ladies on quarters ect.

Copper seems to be in short supply in

this area. Since I have been unable to add any varieties, I have started to upgrade some of the Common half cents. Recently I purchased one 1807. The coin is ~~an~~ fairly early die state with none of the field bulges which developed later. It does have some die rust by the date which is mentioned by "you know who". The dies were somewhat out of alignment with the obverse lines and denticles in that area strong, and the hair on the other ~~end~~ end weaker. Overall I grade the piece an EF-40+ with choice color, but some might call it a VF-30 based on the hair detail.

I am in the process of developing a display for next year's EAC convention. It would be a Primer for Half Cent Varieties 1800-1811. I would like to have your input on information concerning the number of known examples of the "Mega raiter" like the 1804 C-2 (now 10 known) and the 1808 C-1 (now 5 known) as the time draws near. Perhaps we could consider a joint <sup>effort</sup>, since it is not a competitive exhibit, which include all varieties except the 1802 C-1. I'll do the graphics which I hope to use of format similar to your book. (not the Sheldon "tree" diagrams.)

I have looked over the photos of the two 1796 half cent varieties and have noted the following:

Draw an imaginary line from the left foot of the "Y" in LIBERTY at the same angle as the arc of that letter to Ms. Liberty. If the line touches the puff of hair above Ms. Liberty's forehead, it is the no pole, #1. If the line ~~the~~ touches her forehead it is the with pole, #2. I don't know if this is what you have in mind, but it is a difference between the varieties -

I'm looking forward to seeing sometime this fall.

Sincerely  
Bill

10/28/85

William T. Jans, Jr.  
P.O. Box 6207  
Boston Mass 02209

Dear Bill,

Your reply rather quickly to my last letter and as seems to me your claim a little remiss however better late than never

The grading on the 1785 #66 of VF-30 is that given it by its New owner Jim McGowan who tends to undergrade. I had graded it as EF-40 in my mind and have entered it in my records as VF-35. So as you can see grading is not an exact science. There is no question that it is the finest known as of now. Jim has also compared this specimen to the photo in the New Netherlands 54th Sale Lot 1623 and he believes it to be the same coin as I am also of the same opinion. This was a 1960 Sale which is now 25 years ago and sort of ties to what Romano says. However, I understand that Romano does not agree to this he supposedly keeps the coin was acquired by his father earlier than 25 years ago. And so it goes will anyone ever agree on anything?

The Green book (The Big Red Book) has some material on the coin in two places. First the text by "You know who" and the Conclusion Census by Gayton Hanson. Next time we get together I'll go over the material in the "Big Red Book" and fill you in on a number of things that "You know who" doesn't mention or only half way mentions in his text about this sub variety!

Next years EAC Convention is in Washington and I wish for me after April 15th so I should be able to participate with you on your planned exhibit. I do have all of the Drapped Buds and will supply both coins and any information you want. As of the writing there are still 10 1804 #2's known and six 1808 #1's with a seventh one reported but not verified. There is also another 1804 #3 (Early state of #5) which is in rather low grade but sharper than the composite illustrated in the "Big Red Book". The

owner is Barry Abraham who lives in Connecticut. His address is in the latest P.W. under Sweep and Sales and his name is entered wrongly as HARRY. You might contact him if you would like to see the Coin.

The Seventh 1808 #1 was reported in a list of <sup>Half Cent</sup> ~~Coin~~ formerly the Property of one Jeff Back, who has not replied to my letter of a Month ago. This is the same person who's ~~own~~ serial article on books is currently appearing in P.W. In the last P.W. He had reviews of both my books and the "Big Red Book" I was rather surprised at his review ~~of~~. First of all he seemed to think my books were of some use and had some merit even though he failed to mention me as a present person "adding to the storehouse of Numismatic literature" (See next to last paragraph on page 214 of the 7/15/85 issue of P.W.). The second surprise was his comments on the "Big Red Book" <sup>(P.262 PW 9/1/85)</sup> and I quote

"It's not the definitive work, nor was it ever claimed <sup>that</sup> ~~it~~ it was. It does have its drawbacks. .... I found, in a symbiotic relationship with the Cohen work. ...."

"The big surprise to me is that Jeff Back is currently "you know who's" fair haired boy!! which is a subject you may not be familiar with! Just the same for "you know who" to now admit that his "NORWICH OPUS" is not perfect is a great surprise to me. This is in keeping with the methods that "you know who" operates under. As every one seems to know he is now working on a Large Cent book which if not reviewed before publication will create a major lizet among Large Cent collectors. What's going on really has my interest and I hope that I will live long enough to see the Large Cent book. This is in view of the fact it took him 32 years to produce the Half Cent book! I'm getting a little far ahead. -

Did you notice the ad by Bron Guth in the last PW (P.296)? This is the Coin I was referring to in my last letter. So far it hasn't been sold and is a



1796<sup>#2</sup> with the Pale removed! I suppose that in time I will see this coin again. The property of a proud owner who didn't know he was taken in. I think that for Ron Galt to state that the coin is a genuine No Pale is a excellent example of a person trading on his Name in the Half Cent field to perpetrate a fraud. The differences were pointed out to him by Me, Jim McCurgan, Steve Fletcher and Bucky Groves at the ANA. Just the same Ron relies on what "you know who" told him. In his ad he does not address the point of you made and as you can see the coin is very worn. The size of the 7 of the date is another point <sup>as on</sup> the No Pale its small and does not extend below the 1. On the Pale variety the 7 is larger and extends considerably below the 1. You can't see it on the photo in the ad. So what ever it <sup>is</sup> it isn't a 1796 No Pale<sup>#1</sup>. You can see now what creates controversy in the field and how persons get mad at others. Perhaps I should keep opinions to my self then no one can criticize.

Did you get the Catalogue of Coin Auctioneers - Part of Stocks for their<sup>NO</sup> November Mail bid Sale? There are a great many Half Cents in it. If you did not let me know and I send you Xerox's. Its a Major Collection and plenty of CC and Near CC examples. I plan to look at them on November 6 in New York. I cant figure out why Stocks didn't sell them at a regular auction. There are at least 10 Coins that I own now. Let me know if I can be of any help to you

Sincerely

Beyer

617-574-3102

Mr. William T. Jones, Jr.  
P. O. Box 6207  
Boston, MA 02209

Oct. 31 and Nov. 4, 1985

Dear Roger,

I thought that I would drop you a note before and after the NENA convention in Hartford Conn.

I have recently purchased a 1793 C-2 half cent from Teaparty. The good news is that the coin has VF-20 sharpness, a beautiful light brown color, smooth, glossy surfaces and an early obverse die state. The bad news is that there are a few minor rim nicks on both sides.

The coin was first offered to me at \$3,700 via Teaparty from a consignor. Later I refused offers of \$3,200 and \$3,000 because of the rims. Finally, Bruce Tongyear, who works at Teaparty, asked me what I would pay. I responded at 10% in back of graybeet VF bid (\$2,700) and, when Bruce asked for \$2,750, I accepted it.

I know that there is a risk in purchasing a piece everyone else has passed on, but the coin does compare favorably with the plate coin from the first edition of your book which Jim McDugan is now trying to sell at \$4,500. It is attractive, and if I can't work a cash and trade deal with Jim McDugan for one of his "big buck" coins, at least I do have the type hole covered. On the other hand if I do end up with one of Jim's VF's or EF's I will

probably go for the remaining variation of 1793 •  
and then go ahead with the other pre 1800 coins.

Word has it around here that Peter Boivent  
didn't get rich on the 1795 C-6b. The grape-vine  
claim that he made only \$200 on the whole deal  
which included the 1794 C-2b. This confirms my  
feeling that the \$4,400 he paid for the 1795 is  
pretty much the upper limit (except to a price is  
no object collector) for now.

I see the 1796 no pole half cent advertised  
in the September P-W the same one you referred to  
in your last letter? Unfortunately, the picture of the  
piece is little more than a blob of ink, so I could  
not tell if the coin is really the no pole variety.  
In any case it will be a cold day in July  
before I lay out \$8,000+ for a doggy coin like  
that ~~even~~ if it is a 1796 C-1!

Well - off to Halifax - I'll finish this later...

November 4

I received your letter today. Unfortunately the  
bottom of the envelope had been cut and the contents were  
lost. Darn the post office! I really enjoy your letters.

The NENA convention was somewhat poorly organized,  
but I still had lots of fun. I took first place in

the U.S. coin division and bought two type coins for next year's display on the evolution of the U.S. quarter from the Spanish two reals to the present. One of the quarters, an 1831 Browning 5, has double cut 1's in the date which is rather interesting.

The highlight of the conference, however, ~~with~~ was the regional meeting of EAC. I had a chance to see some very nice copper including a 1793 S-2 cent in VF-20 with perfect surfaces. We also discussed the new numbering system for large cent varieties which Breen and Co. are working on. The consensus was that the Sheldon numbers should be left alone but that the middle dates probably will need to be replaced because of the new varieties which have been discovered.

The discussion eventually turned to Walter Breen, and I don't think he has too many fans up here. The topics included Breen's bawling habits, his use of mind altering substances and his tasteless attacks on Dr. Sheldon in PW.

I am very sorry I missed you last letter, and I hope to hear from you soon

Sincerely  
Bill Jones

# COHEN 1



OBVERSE The 7 is larger than the other digits and was used on the 1807 cent. The only 1807 obverse.

REVERSE The same as the 1806 C-4 with the fraction bar extended to the right.

RARITY 2 Common in the late die states which feature convex fields, die rust and poorly struck devices. Scarce in the earlier die states.

THE COIN ABOVE EF-40, early die state

# COHEN 4



OBVERSE A large, heavy 6 which was used on the quarter dollar.

REVERSE The fraction bar is extended to the right.

RARITY 1 Common in spotty red mint state from the 1906 Chapman hoard. Surprisingly scarce in VF and EF.

THE COIN ABOVE MS-60+, A Chapman unc.

November 11, 1985

Dear Roger,

I was very glad to read in your last letter that you will be helping me with our display in the spring. Below I have two lists. The first contains the varieties I do not have; the second contains the varieties I have in low grade:

Missing Varieties:

1802 C-1	1805 C-2
1803 C-2	1806 C-3
1804 C-2 and C-7	1808 C-1
(also C-3 if it counts)	1809 C-1 E

Low grade varieties:

1804 C-4 (6-5)	—
1805 C-3 (6-6)	—
1806 C-2 (AG/VL-3/7)	—

Any or all of these <sup>corn</sup> which you supply would be of great help. Please provide the lists

of any important previous owners and the condition of the pieces. I know that grading is controversial, but I believe that new collectors need to see more about the subject than what they get from the ANA, dealers and the Giant Red Book. Any coins which you provide will either be marked with a star <sup>and</sup> or I will simply give you credit for the coin you supplied at the end of the display.

I have enclosed a sample of the panels which will be prepared for each variety. The first case will contain some introduction information on questions and answer form (e.g. what is a die variety?, What is a die state? ect.) and the final 2 or three cases will contain the coins.

I would most happy to help you with your new book. It sounds like an exciting project, and I will be honored to do what ever I can.

Sincerely,

Bill

P.S There is no need to send any coins. We can put it all together in Washington.



William T. Jones Jr.  
P.O. Box 6207  
Boston MA. 02209

11/27/85

Dear Bill,

I have waited until the Coin Galleries Sale was over to write to you. I did not do very well on the coins I was interested in as I only got 2 lots.

1463 which was from the Brodston Collection even though it wasn't mentioned in the sale Catalogue - it's listed ~~that~~ <sup>it</sup> in the B16 Railroad. However I grade it as AU-50. I also got 1485 which ~~was~~ <sup>is</sup> graded by me as UNC-60 so it's about 3rd in the CC.

I am now beginning to find out who got the ones I missed with a slow process but eventually I do hear from various persons.

Your letter of 11/11 has a number of things. First of all I can supply your Mission Swatches for your display. However I want to emphasize that it's to be your display! You can mention that I supplied <sup>custom</sup> the coin but the text should be yours. I like your display <sup>panels</sup> + ~~sheet~~. ~~When you need the specific coin~~ the only thing you will need from me is in the section

THE COIN ABOVE - let's wait until about a month before the EAC Meeting to determine what text to put in. Who knows you may acquire some of them and upgrade in a number of instances.

This is all for now

Sincerely

Reagan

November 25, 1985

Dear Roger,

I have just finished a fun weekend at the Bay State Coin Show here in Boston. Although I could not add any new half cent varieties to my collection, I was able to upgrade three very common pieces:

Variety	From	To
1804 C-8	F-12	AV-50+
1805 C-1	F-12	EF-40
1826 C-1	VF-25	AV-50

Although they are common, they sure are pretty. I have about 5 other common varieties which I would like to improve which can, at least, calm my half cent fever.

The ANACS paper chase is now in full swing. The biggest game in the business is now to get "5/5" papers on something - usually a dollar, Common or Walker and sell it for megabucks. It's funny how a slip of paper from an organization which only renders opinions (not certifications) can make a \$125 coin into a \$500 coin overnight. The abuses which are now rooted in the ANACS paper

game are almost as bad as the grading scams before ANACS. Just imagine what it will be like when we all have to send our coins to ANACS to find out if they are MS-64.5 or MS-64.6! Of course, they still might be counterfeit but that's another story!

Our friend Peter Bowel is now working for the Mayflower Auction Company. In case you have not heard, this is the outfit which made the highest bid for the 1987 ANA auction. The name "Mayflower" was purchased from a now defunct firm which has not held an auction for at least 6 years. The real owner is the Cumberland Investment Company which specializes in "I.Q." (Investment Quality) tangible assets.

At the time of its application, Mayflower had a president (who did not belong to the ANA), no staff and no track record - in short all the qualifications required to run the biggest auction of the year! It's sad that the ANA continues to sell its soul for the almighty dollar.

I was thumbing through my copy of the "Dime Red Book" the other day when I reread "you know whose" (henceforth the Creator's) views on half cent literature. I thought you might enjoy my little

satire on his criticisms.

Class I The Unfortunates (e.g. Gilbert) Those who had to write their books in the dark ages before the birth of the Creator.

Class II The Inspired (Empire-Bowers) Those whose work was written with the divine guidance from the Creator.

Class III The Damned (The Little Half Sisters) Written by a heretic who was unwilling to wait for the words of the Creator.

Class IV The Word of God (The Grant Reel Book) The words of the Creator (although now perhaps not the final words) which will be rivaled only by the Book of Large Cents which is due sometime in the next millennium.

The Creator has already laid the foundations for the Book of Large Cents in his attacks upon Dr. Sheldon. Dr. Sheldon had the nerve to place his name on his own work even though the Creator

had a hand in it. After all, the stubborn, inflexible Sheldon (who prevented the Creator from going to MED school because of a favorable recommendation) went to his grave believing that the Head of 1794 Large Cents had been individually engraved. In fact the Creator has determined they came from a common head punch! Such an EGO!

Have a happy holiday

Sincerely,

Bill

Feb. 14, 1986

Dear Roger,

My AT+T office has announced that it is going to close here in Boston which means that I will have to either relocate to the New York-New Jersey Area or find another job. Right now, my wife and I would prefer that I change companies, but, in any case, things may be hectic around <sup>here at</sup> the time of the EAC Convention. As a result, I feel that I should finish the graphics on our display at an earlier date than we had planned. I know that this is your busy season so I have enclosed a chart with the missing and low grade varieties on it and a self addressed stamped envelope. There is no need for you to write anything else.

My most recent half cent acquisition is an 1804 C-6 in EF-40. The coin was cleaned and recolored at one time, but it does look fairly natural and the surfaces are quite smooth and pleasing. This variety is hard to find in nice condition because so many nice ones are in die state collections. Now all I need is a nice C-7 to complete my set of spiked chin varieties. Do you know of any one who would like to part with one?

I have been reading in P.W. that Mr. Breen is continuing his campaign against Dr. Sheldon. It seems that Mr. Breen's current strategy is to prepare a book and concurrently discredit all of those who have covered the area before him. It's a shame that "you know who" can't take a page from Holmes, Noe who acknowledged that "We all stand on dead men's shoulders". Obviously, one does not publish a new work to replace a classic book unless it is some sort of an improvement over the old one, at least in the author's mind. It's shame Mr. Breen has a psychological need to discredit others in order to enhance his own position.

I hope that tax time isn't too trying for you, and I am looking forward to seeing you in the spring.

Sincerely

Bill Jones



March 28

Dear Roger,

I have just about completed the graphics for our EAC Convention display. I have made the whole thing very flexible so that any changes which ~~me~~ we may decide to make in the coins used may be made easily. Please let me know if you decide to use any coins other than the pieces which were on the list you sent to me recently.

I decided not to mark each of the varieties which you are supplying but placed a sign at the end which gives you special credit for your contributions. There is also a bibliography which includes yourself, "who know who", Jack Robinson's Quotes and the Guidebook. I believe that it is only fair to mention sources when they are used.

Under new acquisitions, I upgraded my 1800 to an EF-45 and my 1804 C-10 to an EF-40. The 1800 is especially nice with all of the subtle hair detail visible on satiny, dark brown surfaces.

I also purchased a very choice 1950 proof set which completes my collection of "proof sets issued in my lifetime". I have found this set to be very difficult to locate in attractive condition

became 1) most 1950 sets seem to have frosty, not mirrored, surfaces 2) many sets were hauled in the original packaging (especially the half dollar) 3) the silver coins are usually dipped and cleaned to death and 4) most choice sets have broken so that the half dollar may be sold to some foolish investors who will pay more for the half than the whole set.

All of these coins came from an old Boston collection which is now being sold at Worthy Coin. This collection also contained the 1804 C-5 in EF-40 which I obtained some time ago. If there are any early date half cents which might interest you, I'll let you know. Of current interest to me is a Vermont ('VERMONTS') landscape which grades F-UF on a light brown, basically defect free planchet which is very unusual for the issue.

Well, I know you are in the middle of tax time, so I won't run on any more. I'm looking forward to seeing you in May.

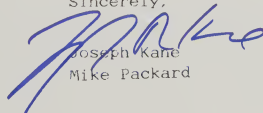
Sincerely  
Bill Jones

April 15, 1986

Dear Mr. Rosier

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic region of EAC, I would like to thank you for your very generous contribution of \$20 toward the cost of the convention hospitality room. While we hope to see you at the convention, we particularly hope **you** (and your spouse, if attending) can arrive in time to enjoy the comraderie and food which will be available in the hospitality room on Thursday, May 8. The hospitality room will open at 4:00 in the afternoon, and will remain open throughout the evening. Again, Mike and I thank you and hope to see you there.

Sincerely,



Joseph Kane  
Mike Packard

enjoyed the  
"Piece of The Rock"  
correspondence



April 22, 1986

Dear Roger,

All of the graphics for our display are complete and ready to go. My wife, Carol, and I are scheduled to land at National Airport during the afternoon of May 8 (Thursday), and I plan to attend the "half cent happening" scheduled for that evening. I'm looking forward to the convention and to our display. It will be my first opportunity to see and 1802 C-1 and an 1806 C-3 "in the copper".

The latest addition to my collection is an 1803 C-1 in AU-50. I have seen many examples of this coin in good through fine condition, but I can't recall ever seeing it ~~in~~ even mVF. Although I believe that this variety is the most common 1803, I think it is far scarcer in EF and better condition than the 1803 C-3. At any rate, I now have only one more common variety to upgrade, the 1805 C-4.

Please bring any the rare varieties which you would care to sell. Now that I have just about completed my upgrade of the common varieties, it's now time to fill a few more variety holes in my collection.

I know that you must be pleased that Emancipation Day (April 15th) has arrived so that your personal schedule can now get back to normal. Perhaps we can discuss the advanced half cent book which you spoke about last spring.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in about two weeks

Sincerely

Bill Jones

## Missing Varieties Continued

Year and C.M.M.#

Grade

Pedigree and Comments  
GEN. NORTON - ANN SALE 1970 -  
PAUL MUNICH

1809 C-1

EF-40

TIED FOR FINEST KNOWN

PLATE COIN IN  
AMERICAN HALF  
CENTS FIRST  
EN. 2ND POSITION

## Low Grade Varieties

1805 C-3

VF-20

6TH POSITION IN  
CONDITION CENSUS

(my coin is a 6-6)

TOM ELLER - PAUL SEITZ - B. 1/2  
DOUGLAS - W. B. BEN - G. TEN HARTMAN  
W. K. RAYMOND - R. R. MURPHY

1806 C-2

EF-40

R. R. MUNDE

(my coin is 6000/14)

TIED WITH 5 OTHERS  
FOR 7TH POSITION IN  
CONDITION CENSUS

2/20/86

Thanks for writing and the above showed  
Full thanks. Keep me informed if you know.

Sincerely  
Roger

# Missing Varieties

Year and CMM#

Grade

Pedigree and Comments  
(if any)

1802 C-1

G-6

DR. K. SATO R15 - WIS. RAYMOND

BELOW 10TH  
IN CONDITION CENSUS

1803 C-2

VF-25

3RD POSITION  
IN CONDITION  
CENSUS

DON FREDERICK - SAN ANGELO

AMERICAN HALF  
PLATE COIN IN CENTS 2ND EDITION  
BILL: THIS COIN SHOULD BE  
EXAMINED REVERSE UP

1804 C-2

Fr 2

DISCOUNT SPECIMEN

LOWEST GRADE  
EXAMPLES KNOWN

HOWARD HAZEL CORN - F301 HAZEL  
WIS. RAYMOND - R.D. MUNDY

1804 C-7

EF-40

TIED WITH 3 OTHER  
EXAMPLES FOR 3RD  
IN CONDITION CENSUS

STACKS OVER THE COUNTER  
(1971)

PLATE COIN IN  
AMERICAN HALF CENTS  
1ST + 2ND EDITION

1805 C-2

F-12

NEW YORK COIN DEALER - W. BROWN -  
G. JAN HANSON - R. D. MUNDY

5TH POSITION IN  
CONDITION CENSUS

1806 C-3

V6-8

R. BATHOLDER - PAUL MUNDSON  
TIED WITH 4 OTHERS FOR  
4TH POSITION IN CONDITION CENSUS

PLATE COIN IN AMERICAN  
HALF CENTS 1ST EDITION

1808 C-1

A6-3

DISCOUNTED IN 1982  
FRD BATHOLDER - STEVE FISHER -  
RICKY GROSS

BILL: THIS COIN  
SHOULD BE EXAMINED  
REVERSE UP



4701 S ANGLIMORE  
BETHESDA MD  
20816

JUNE 1, 1986

AND

AUGUST 10, 1986

William T. James Jr.  
P.O. Box 1314  
Bastan Ma. 02117

Dear Bill,

at long last My Copy of the 5/15/86 Pw arrived  
Yesterday and today I'm writing you about your  
recently article. I'll try to tell you in on a few things

I'm sure your aware that ~~there~~ rarely is one of many  
things that were of great interest to Me in putting out My  
First Edition and as your Note we are now at a  
well-established track record however I would like to  
share with you some ~~of~~ History as to how we ~~have~~ got  
~~to~~ where we <sup>W.O.A.</sup> ~~are~~. I.E. the beginning of Phase Two with  
the Publication of My First Edition in 1971.

This may sound repetitious but prior to 1971 and  
beginning in 1952 "you know who" had a virtual hold on  
Half Cent Infomath. Since you were not collecting then  
it may be hard to convey the extreme difficulty in getting  
Infomath and the Vacuum that someone like Me who  
was interested had to live with. However if you were  
one of "you know who's" select group of friends you  
occasionally received some Infomath but the great aura  
presented that somehow "you know who" knew it all.

I now know from the "Big Red Book" that in reality he  
knew very little and one hell of a lot of the aura  
existed due to his desire to create it and the willingness  
of persons to accept it. This same approach exists in the  
"Big Red Book" however it's been greatly tempered by My  
writing and the fact I encouraged many persons to  
write for Benjamin Wise without censorship. It's almost  
a shame you didn't <sup>not</sup> get interested in Half Cents 25 years ago  
so you could experience what it's like in  
the field but it just isn't so and the present

era of free exchange such as were having now is a direct result of my efforts to rid the Half Cent field of its former Ten fold.

Now back to Rarity. In 1953 "you know who" furnished me with a list of Half Cent Varieties, coins indexed from Brown Numbers to Gilbart plus rarity ratings. Incidentally the "Brown Numbers" were a straight through system such as Sheldon and accessible one seen in old Catalogues. I note that the "Big Red Book" does not use them now are they even mentioned. (Another one of his many Fiascos to be ignored) This list was the only <sup>new</sup> data I had as to rarity. In retrospect, as of 1971, the rarity ratings were way to high but not as high as the next list of information <sup>that got out.</sup> ~~that~~ This was the Bowers + Ruddy Guide book published in 1962.

If you have a copy you might refer to it and list the rarity ratings then list my 1st edition ratings. The changes were all my claims based on my experience but you must remember a Number of things. 1. I had very little contact with other <sup>comparative to now,</sup> collectors. 2. There were very few collectors of Half Cents <sup>then</sup> compared to now. 3. "you know who" had flatly refused to even cooperate with me in any respect! 4. The rarity ratings in B + R were all "you know who's". I still don't know who whole story of even how or why this booklet was published but as of now it's only a historical question. At the time there was much speculation as to the how + why of it. Particularly since "you know who's" Half Cent book was not published despite the 1952 pronouncement of its forthcoming.

I hope what I've written helps you understand as to how we got to the beginning of Phase 2.

The process you describe for Phase 2 is excellent and is an exact description of the process that

resulted  
 resulted in the Rarity Rating for MY 1981  
 2nd Edition. <sup>The process</sup> ~~But~~ does NOT <sup>describe</sup> ~~include~~ what came  
 out in the "Big Red Book" which I will discuss  
 later.

Your comments in regard to 1828 #3 and 1832 #1  
 are well taken and obviously when and if I  
 put out a 3rd edition I will spend considerable  
 time with you not only on rarity but on all  
 aspects of the Series. It is important that you  
 review the rarity scale that I use. Note that  
Contrary to the "Big Red Book" for R-1, 2 & 3  
 there are NO NUMERICAL DESIGNATIONS. Perhaps  
 there should be but if you will refer to both MY  
 1st + 2nd Editions I carefully note that Rarity <sup>4-7</sup> ~~(4-7)~~ for R-4, 5, 6 + 7  
~~is~~ is estimated. The "Big Red Book" on the  
 other hand sets forth absolutely in the scale (except as  
 to R-7) and then proceeds through a full page  
 of logorrhea that does not explain the scale, rather  
 it makes many denigratory remarks about Dr  
 Sheldon, laudatory remarks about "you know who"  
 written by himself and reaches no conclusion other  
 than "God has spoken".

Now that I'm discussing the "Big Red Book" I'll  
 go back to your reference in your article in regard  
 to the (G-11, CMM-3, BS-4a: 1a-B). Your use of  
 the first paragraph under REMARKS is liberally. Now look  
 on the same page and notice the conclusion census  
 description of the W.W. Neil specimen and the date of  
 the sale (1947). Now if an CF specimen <sup>was</sup> ~~is~~ known  
 in 1947 how can the statement that the Finest  
 known in 1952 was Homer Downing Fine be made?  
 Note that this can be gotten very easily if you're  
 alert.

The Problem arises due to the fact that "You know who" wrote the text except for the CONDITION CENSUS. This was done by JON HANSON. The Big Red Book suffers from not having an editor. "You know who" refused to allow it. I understand that the Exeter sheet in process is now thicker than my book (1st edition)

The "Big Red Books" treatment of rarity is quite in keeping with "You know who's" historical approach to the subject. For years he has overrated the subject. This pattern continues. How many times is the rarity stated such as for the 1804 "Hager (B4a-c45) Rarity 4, nearly B-5", ~~as~~ currently I would call the rarity a low B-4 or B-3 as I believe that about 200 specimens <sup>are known</sup> ~~exist~~. I haven't counted them but I have owned 32 separate examples over the last 20 years. Another example is the 1804 (BS2: 2-B) C-4 which is called "Low Rarity 6 Nearly B-5" In 1971 I called it B-4 as I had record of 22 specimens. In September 1976 I revealed 31 specimens so it was clearly B-5. In the 11/15/84 issue of P.W. I noted that "about 50 example known" I would now say that 60 are known so that before too long a time the variety might be called B-4. There are countless other examples of this pattern by "You know who" I believe he does this without any real thought. As a former writer of auction catalogs <sup>in an attempt</sup> he over states rarity to create demand. In my opinion the "Big Red Book" is a great step backward in the never ending quest for accuracy in rarity!

(5)

8/10/86

Yes, I started the letter and when I got over of. August 4. I remembered I started the June 1 letter so here I am.

I've added a few stars to my collection such as an 1805 Quarter Eagle. That set me back a few bucks. I've also picked up the coin plated as State VII on Page 113 of the "BIG RED BOOK" about which I could write a lot but I won't for now. I didn't get to ANA this year but Frank Wilkinson picked up 3 interesting Half Cents for me. I haven't gotten them yet as it was just yesterday he called.

I suppose you're happy about your new job and not having to leave Boston. It's really quite difficult to change jobs and also move your housing. I think I could only take one at a time.

PW of 7/15/86 has also arrived and I read with great interest your articles on the "Paper Chase". It's a very well thought out article. It's also very well written. Your comments about Sheldons system of grading are clear and succinct. For a rambling loud ab. logarithm on this subject see the "BIG RED BOOK" Page (33) - 37, enough of this for now. I liked your conclusions particularly No. 10.

A week from today I leave for 2 weeks at Cape Hatteras NC. It's a great place, No TV, No telephone and No clients. I really stretch out and relax. Though I will take time to integrate CC data accumulated during the year I'm looking forward to it.

Good to hear from you and I'll try to be more prompt in the future.

Sincerely

Bogor

August 4, 1986

Dear Roger,

Please forgive <sup>me</sup> for not writing you earlier, but I have been very busy. On June 30, I started a new job with the John Hancock Property and Casualty Insurance Companies. My title is Manager of Budgets ~~of~~ and Costs, and, while there is a lot of basic accounting in the position, my bosses are going to be looking for lots of analytical work. I have three professional people reporting to me so I am finally going to get the "supervisor monkey" off my back.

On the "important" (neomnemonic) scale of my life, I haven't been able to add any more half cents, but I have purchased an Isabella Quater in AU-55 for my fall display, "Two Bits from Cob to Chel" and a virtually Mint State 1912 Barber Half. Currently I'm looking for a decent 1806 C-2 and an EF-AU 1805 C-4.

Since my new job is on the other side of Boston, I now have a new P.O. Box:

William J. Jones  
P.O. Box 1314  
Boston, Ma. 02117

Any mail sent to the old box will still get there, but I am phasing it out.

Thanks again for allowing me to "borrow" your choice half cents for our display. I had lots of fun looking at ~~at~~ some of the "celebrities" in the world of half cents "up close and personal". Perhaps we could do it again sometime.

I hope you are having an enjoyable summer

Sincerely

Bill



October 13, 1986

Dear Roger,

Well I finally did it! I won the Irene Selormino D'Esopo Memorial Award for the best exhibit in the show at the most recent New England Numismatic Association (NENA) convention. My usual major competition, Arthur Fitts (who has run for the ANA Board of Governors several times) had sort of an off year with his exhibit and was given a new category, "second best of show" with lots of apologies. This is a goal which I have wanted to realize, and now that I have won it, I am satisfied. The exhibits covered the history of the evolution of the quarter dollar from the Spanish cob to the clad stuff we spent today.

I have not done much with halfcents recently mainly because there is not much available to lay. I am still looking for an upgrade for my 1805 C-4 and my 1806 C-2. I have, however, begun an update of my "Condition Census for the Intermediate Collector" for P.W. I hope that you like these articles better than the first series which of course stated our relationships a few years ago.

Since things are a little slow in the half Cent area, I have begun to work on two other projects: a Complete U.S. Coin type-set and a set of Indian Quarter eagles in choice AV condition. The quarter eagles are more or less a hit or miss project because many of the coins I am looking for are the pieces which <sup>are</sup> usually placed in investment portfolios as MS-63's for about three times the price I am willing to pay. Still, I have been able to accumulate 9 of the 15 pieces so far.

Recently I stopped into New England Rare Coin Galleries, which is one of the local investors' watering holes, to check on their price for the 1911-D which is the only key coin in the set. The fellow behind the counter asked me what grade I was looking for and I told him AV-55.

"We don't sell any bullion grade coins", he exclaimed, "We cater to investors who want MS-63 grades or better". I then informed him that the coin I was looking for had a retail price ~~to~~ of up to \$2,000. To this, he took a sudden interest in me and asked for my name and telephone number. I didn't give it to him - it's really amazing how ignorant the so-called "numismatic investment professionals" are. ~~I~~

(3)

The most interesting new type coin I have acquired is an 1859 Indian Cent in AU-58 (yes I do agree with that grade on rare occasion). The piece has full luster and original surfaces and I never knew that the Copper-nickel Cents from this era could be so beautiful. The coin has full proof-like surface with a subtle golden hue.

I have a question which you don't have to answer unless you want to. Is the 1808 C-1 which you now have the same piece which JT Teaparty had listed a couple of years ago? I became interested in this while I was writing the latest series of half cent articles.

I hope that you were able to fill some of your Sheldon variety holes at the Brown sale.

Sincerely,  
Bill Jones

Dec - 29, 1986

Dear Roger,

Rick Leonard asked me to forward a copy of the Half-Cent Happening Announcement to you because he does not have your address. I know that the EAC Convention may cause you some problems because of its timing around income tax time, but it would be great if you could make it.

My half cent collection has been on hold recently because I have not made the commitment to start on the pre 1800 varieties, have not found any of the post 1800 varieties I don't have (which is pretty hard now) or have not been able to upgrade the two most common piece I need (1805 C-4 and 1806 C-2). I have, however, been working on a project which I abandoned some years ago - a U.S. Type set. So far my most notable addition has been a 1796 half dime. If I were a wealthy person, I would collect the early half dimes by die variety, but when the most common varieties are equal in rarity to the 1802 C-C half cent, that limits your options.

Recently, I purchased the first two editions of the Red Book and was surprised to when I reviewed the coverage in the half cent section. Merame and

the 1802 C-1 and the 1805 C-3. Surprisingly, however  
~~the~~ 1805 C-3 ~~is~~ (the Gilbert plate coin) is pictured.  
"Jon know who" made some comments in the Grant  
Red Book that the five letter word, C-R-E-F-L,  
played a big part in the misattribution of these  
1805 C-4 as the C-2 and C-3. With guileless like  
this from the most important reference in field,  
perhaps ~~CON~~ C-O-N-FU-SION had something  
to do with the problem.

Well it's almost January 1 and I've now  
got an accounting job so I'd better run. I hope  
you are having a happy holiday season, and I  
hope to see you in Dallas.

Sincerely

Bill

William T. Jones, Jr.  
P.O. Box 1314  
Boston, MA 02117

Mr. Roger Cohen  
4701 Sangamore Road  
Bethesda, MD 20816

Dear Roger,

Harry Salyards has asked me to speak at the 1988 EAC educational forum. The topic will be the die varieties of 1804 half cents. Since I view this as great honor, I immediately accepted, and informed Harry that I have 11 of the 12 varieties available for photographic and display purposes. I explained to Harry that the missing variety, the 1804 C-2, was no problem because I could use the obverse of an 1804 C-4 and the reverse of an 1803 C-3 for the slides. Harry asked me, however, to touch base with you to see if you could supply the slides for the 1804 C-2. If you can, I would be most happy to reimburse you for your expense and give you credit for the coin during the presentation either by name or as the "Arlington Collector".

Since I last wrote you, which was a very long time ago, I did make one major find in the half cent area, an 1804 C-7. I cherry picked this piece unattributed at a small show from a dealer who took great pains to inform me that he was an expert in early American copper who is a member in good standing of EAC. The coin is a fairly early die state with a small die crack which resembles the early die state of the 1804 C-6. I grade the coin as VF-30. On the two ends of the spectrum, John Wright called it a VF-25, and on the commercial end of the house our friend, Peter Bover, calls it an EF-40 and is desperate to buy it.

I also spotted a 1794 C-6a in Good-6 or thereabouts on the Worthy Coin bid wall but was totally blown out the water by another collector who wanted it a lot more than I did.

On the type coin front, I purchased an 1836 Gobrecht Dollar (Judd 60, on base restrrike of the 1855-60 era) and an 1801 half dime in EF-40 (the best 1801 I have seen by about 20 points) which proves that the 1801 Valentine numbers 1 and 2 are only die states. I wrote Jules Reiver concerning this piece because he was asking for information on the 1801 half dime in Coin World about a year ago.

I hope that you and your family are having a pleasant holiday season and will have a happy new year.

Sincerely

Bill

Dear Bill,

12/21/87  
I'm about to be subpoenaed into Texas so I  
will hasten a reply.

First of course I can't be at EAC 88  
Just look at the date  
Cohen

Last Month Frank Welleson Photographed  
the Main Coins in My Collection and he has all the  
Negatives. He took Photos of all 3 of My 1804#2's  
so if you will Write to him He can furnish Prints  
I would suggest you write Bill Weber He  
can furnish the 2nd Best Specimen for your  
Display and he's located in Calif.

I Picked up 3 Half Cents at the Norwold Sale.  
1795 #56, 1846 (PO-7) and 1852 (SR-12) I also  
acquired for My wife Colonial Collectin an oak  
Tree Shilling

This is all for Now and it was good  
to hear from you

Sincerely  
Roger



5/9/88

Dear Bill,

Glad you acquired the Ex-Boston  
1826 #2. The only question I have is, why  
Mc Gowan passed?

Enclosed is my records on the date of the  
Society. You might call me if you have  
any questions as its sometimes hard to express them  
~~hard~~ in writing.

I am sorry that EAC is settling into  
an April 15<sup>th</sup> date for an annual meeting  
each year. If I were President I could blame it  
on "You know who" but I attributed it to a  
"hardening of the arteries" that Organizers get after  
a number of years.

Sorry for the poor quality of my writing but  
am recovering from a slight spell of heart trouble  
(Not unexpected)

Sincerely,

Boyer

William T. Jones, Jr.  
P.O. Box 1314  
Boston, MA 02117

Mr. Roger Cohen  
4701 Sangamore Road  
Bethesda, MD 20816

Dear Roger,

I know that you like to keep track of the finest known and/or most famous examples of each of the early half cent varieties. Therefore, I wanted to write to you about a piece which I acquired at the recent EAC convention. It is the Brobston specimen of the 1806 C-2. The coin is an AU-50, but it has been recolored. It is still quite attractive, and it is the sharpest example of this variety which I have ever seen. I bought it from Don Valenziano, and Jim McGuigan informed me of its prior ownership. It is currently listed in the number 2 position in the "Giant Red Book", and although I know that it has fallen out of that spot because of the cleaning, I would still like to find out if it falls within the top ten.

With the exception of the 1806 C-2, there was very little else in the way of half cents which was available at the convention. Most of the material which was offered was low grade and/or expensive, and most dealers seemed to have very depleted inventories. I was able to locate a fairly decent Vermont landscape ('Vermonts', Ryder 2) and a 1723 Hibernia half penny (EAC auction lot #12).

You were sorely missed at the convention. Tet probably took all of the top honors at the half cent happening, and you were definitely missed out in the bourse, at least from my point of view. The EAC auction prices were as crazy as ever with the star attraction being Dr. Sheldon's 1982 EAC medal realizing \$1,250! "You know who" made his usual pronouncement on when his new large cent opus would be ready for the starving masses (any month, year, decade or century from now) and also managed to get a little dig in on Dr. Sheldon ("I concluded in the early 1950's that Dr. Sheldon's unpublished book on the late date cents was useless!"). Jules Reiver had an incredible display of 1793 cents including two mint state chains, several mint state wreaths and two strawberry leaf cents including the unique variety.

I was looking through my copies of PW the other day looking for the series of articles you did on the top ten varieties of half cents which you submitted back in 1984 and 1985. Would you consider doing that series again? The census data in the "Giant Red Book" has proven to be very inaccurate and I for one would like to have a new copy for my own reference. If I could help you in any way with such a project, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Bill

William T. Jones, Jr.  
P.O. Box 1314  
Boston, MA 02117

Mr. Roger Cohen  
4701 Sangamore Road  
Bethesda, MD 20816

Dear Roger,

Thank you for sending the copies of your census list for the 1806 C-2 to me. I really enjoyed going through it. To answer your question, Jim McGuigan passed on the 1806 C-2 because he said that he had a better one. He did not buy it for inventory because he probably did not have an immediate customer and therefore did not want to tie up his funds. Don Valenziano had the piece on consignment from Bruce W. Burnham and needed a cash payment for it.

In reviewing your notes, I believe that Hanson owns the MS-60, Tett owns two of the AU's and Weber owns the AU-55. The question which remains is does McGuigan own the the Cogan coin or does he have one which is not on your list? The answer may prove to be interesting.

I was sorry to read that you have not been feeling well. I wish you a very speedy recovery, and my thoughts have been and will continue to be with you.

During the 1987 EAC convention, you had an 1808 C-3 available which was an EF-40 or so. I passed on it at that time because I was raising money for a high grade 1795 half dollar (which never materialized). Do you still have that piece available? If so, I am interested in purchasing it. I believe that your asking price was somewhere in the \$450 to \$500 neighborhood, but of course, any current offering would have to reflect the current market. Please let me know about the piece when you are feeling up to it.

Thanks again for your help with the 1806 C-2, and I am looking forward to hearing from you again sometime in the future.

Sincerely,

*Bill*

*Ans.  
6/15/88*